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31 July 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate General Counsel

SUBJECT : Appeals Scheduled for 8 August 1973
ICRC Meeting

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1. We have reviewed the documents in question. In addition, [redacted] Deputy Chief of Division D, was asked to read the Truman memorandum of 24 October 1952, and his views on the advisability of its declassification were solicited.

2. There appears to be no basis for continuing the classification of the Kennedy-Khrushchev correspondence, much of which is already in the public domain. As to the question of unilaterally releasing the correspondence of the one-time head of a foreign government, it is noted that the Department of State, which presumably is sensitive to the proprieties in such matters, has recommended declassification.

3. With respect to the Truman memorandum, however, it is our judgment that the classification should be continued. Mr. [redacted] concurs. The document is explicit in its treatment of such details as organizational responsibilities and relationships and, though over 20 years old, reflects the current arrangements for management of the community's Comint programs. Downgrading to Secret could be considered, but not declassification. The justification for refusing declassification should be based on the protection of intelligence methods rather than the fact that the document deals with cryptography.

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[redacted]
Special Assistant for Information Control

Attachments

SAIC:CES;SLM

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